

Margaret Rague HB 5537
161 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851
March 12, 2014

Dear CT PHC Testimony,

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson, and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee:

I write to ask you to strongly support and vote in the affirmative to add bill language for the modernization of the CT Naturopathic physician scope of practice to HB 5537. The language needs to be attached to this bill so it can come before the Public Health Committee for consideration. This Naturopathic scope of practice law is 90 years old and has not kept pace with the significant advances in education and training of Naturopathic doctors in the ensuing decades.

Dear People:

- 1) CT lacks sufficient primary care physicians and has for a long time;
- 2) CT naturopathic physicians (NDs) are trained as primary care physicians;
- 3) NDs are trained to both prescribe drugs and also to take people off of drugs and help them institute less invasive and more effective healing remedies;
- 4) CT has the only accredited naturopathic medical school in the State;
- 5) graduates of that school are leaving CT and going to States with a full scope of practice-i.e., "brain drain"
- 6) You can correct this situation.
- 7) If you need any help, feel free to call upon me.

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Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,
Margaret Rague JD, ND